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#### (57) Abstract

The present invention provides improved methods, kits, and pharmaceutical compositions for increasing white blood cell survival following chemotherapy, and mobilizing hematopoietic progenitor cells from bone marrow into peripheral blood, comprising the administration of an effective amount of angiotensinogen, angiotensin I (AI), AI analogues, AI fragments and analogues thereof, angiotensin II (AII), AII analogues, AII fragments or analogues thereof or AII AT2 type 2 receptor agonists.

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## METHODS TO INCREASE WHITE BLOOD CELL SURVIVAL AFTER CHEMOTHERAPY

#### 5 Cross Reference

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This application is a Continuation-In-Part of U.S. Provisional Application Nos. 60/084,908 filed May 11, 1998 and 60/092,633 filed July 13, 1998.

#### Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to methods, kits, and pharmaceutical compositions for increasing white blood cell survival following chemotherapy and for mobilizing hematopoietic cell precursors from the bone marrow to the peripheral blood.

#### 15 Background of the Invention

People diagnosed as having cancer are frequently treated with single or multiple cytotoxic chemotherapeutic agents (cytotoxic agents) to kill cancer cells at the primary tumor site or at distant sites to where cancer has metastasized. (U.S. Patent No. 5,605,931 incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.) Chemotherapy treatment is given either in a single or in several large doses or, more commonly, it is given in small doses 1 to 4 times a day over variable times of weeks to months. There are many cytotoxic agents used to treat cancer, and their mechanisms of action are generally poorly understood.

Irrespective of the mechanism, useful chemotherapeutic agents are known to injure and kill cells of both tumors and normal tissues. The successful use of

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chemotherapeutic agents to treat cancer depends upon the differential killing effect of the agent on cancer cells compared to its side effects on critical normal tissues. Among these effects are the killing of hematopoietic blood forming cells, and the killing and suppression of the white blood cells, which can lead to infection. Acute and chronic bone marrow toxicities are also major limiting factors in the treatment of cancer. They are both related to a decrease in the number of hemopoietic cells (e.g., pluripotent stem cells and other progenitor cells) caused by both a lethal effect of cytotoxic agents or radiation on these cells and by differentiation of stem cells provoked by a feed-back mechanism induced by the depletion of more mature marrow compartments. (U.S. Patent No. 5,595,973 incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.) Stimulators and inhibitors of bone marrow kinetics play a prominent role in the induction of damage and recovery patterns (Tubiana, M., et al., Radiotherapy and Oncology 29:1, 1993).

Prevention or protection from the side effects of chemotherapy would be a great benefit to cancer patients. The many previous efforts to reduce these side effects have been largely unsuccessful. For life-threatening side effects, efforts have concentrated on altering the dose and schedules of the chemotherapeutic agent to reduce the side effects. Other options are becoming available, such as the use of colony stimulating factor (CSF), granulocyte-macrophage-CSF (GM-CSF) or epidermal growth factor (EGF) to increase the number of normal cells in various tissues before the start of chemotherapy (See Jimenez and Yunis, Cancer Research 52:413-415; 1992). The mechanisms of protection by these factors, while not fully understood, are most likely associated with an increase in the number of normal

critical target cells before treatment with cytotoxic agents, and not with increased survival of cells following chemotherapy.

Acute myelosuppression as a consequence of cytotoxic chemotherapy is well recognized as a dose-limiting factor in cancer treatment. (U.S. Patent No. 5,595,973) Although other normal tissues may be adversely affected, bone marrow is particularly sensitive to the proliferation-specific treatment such as chemotherapy or radiotherapy. For some cancer patients, hematopoietic toxicity frequently limits the opportunity for chemotherapy dose escalation. Repeated or high dose cycles of chemotherapy may be responsible for severe stem cell depletion leading to important long-term hematopoietic sequelea and marrow exhaustion.

Despite advances in the field of chemotherapy, prior art methods have proven to be of limited utility in minimizing chemotherapy-induced hematopoietic stem cell and white blood cell depletion. Thus, there is a need for improved therapeutic methods and pharmaceutical compositions for increasing white blood cells survival following chemotherapeutic treatments, as well as for decreasing the adverse effects of chemotherapy on the bone marrow.

#### Summary of the Invention

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In one aspect, the present invention provides methods and kits for increasing white blood cell survival following chemotherapy comprising the administration of angiotensinogen, angiotensin I (AI), AI analogues, AI fragments and analogues thereof, angiotensin II (AII), AII analogues, AII fragments or analogues thereof or AII AT<sub>2</sub> type 2 receptor agonists.

In another aspect, the present invention provides methods and kits for mobilizing hematopoietic progenitor cells from bone marrow into peripheral blood comprising the administration of angiotensinogen, angiotensin I (AI), AI analogues, AI fragments and analogues thereof, angiotensin II (AII), AII analogues, AII fragments or analogues thereof or AII AT<sub>2</sub> type 2 receptor agonists.

In a further aspect, the present invention provides compositions useful for increasing white blood cell survival and mobilizing hematopoietic progenitor cells from bone marrow into peripheral blood following chemotherapy comprising the administration of angiotensinogen, angiotensin I (AI), AI analogues, AI fragments and analogues thereof, angiotensin II (AII), AII analogues, AII fragments or analogues thereof or AII AT<sub>2</sub> type 2 receptor agonists.

These aspects and other aspects of the invention become apparent in light of the following detailed description.

### 15 Brief description of the drawings

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Figure 1 is a graph showing the effect of AII treatment on white blood cell number in the blood 7 days after 5FU treatment.

Figure 2 is a graph showing the effect of AII treatment on white blood cell number in the spleen 7 days after 5FU treatment.

Figure 3 is a graph showing the effect of AII treatment on white blood cell number in the thymus 7 days after 5FU treatment.

Figure 4 is a graph showing the effect of AII treatment on white blood cell number in the bone marrow 7 days after 5FU treatment.

Figure 5 is a graph showing the effect of AII treatment on CFU-GM cell number on day 7 after culture initiation following blood harvest 7 days after 5FU treatment.

Figure 6 is a graph showing the effect of AII treatment on CFU-GM cell number on

Figure 7 is a graph showing the effect of AII treatment on CFU-GM cell number on day 7 after culture initiation following bone marrow harvest 7 days after 5FU treatment.

day 7 after culture initiation following spleen harvest 7 days after 5FU treatment.

- Figure 8 is a graph showing the effect of AII treatment on CFU-GM cell number in the blood on day 7 after 5FU treatment.
- Figure 9 is a graph showing the effect of AII treatment on white blood cell number in the spleen on day 14 after 5FU treatment.
  - Figure 10 is a graph showing the effect of AII treatment on white blood cell number in the thymus on day 14 after 5FU treatment.
  - Figure 11 is a graph showing the effect of AII treatment on white blood cell number in the bone marrow on day 14 after 5FU treatment.

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- Figure 12 is a graph showing the effect of AII treatment on CFU-GM cell number on day 7 after culture initiation following spleen harvest 14 days after 5FU treatment.
- Figure 13 is a graph showing the effect of AII treatment on CFU-GM cell number on day 7 after culture initiation following blood harvest 14 days after 5FU treatment.

  Figure 14 is a graph showing the effect of AII treatment on CFU-GM cell number on day 7 after culture initiation following blood harvest 14 days after 5FU treatment.

Figure 15 is a graph showing the effect of AII treatment on CFU-GM cell number on day 7 after culture initiation following spleen harvest 14 days after 5FU treatment.

Figure 16 is a graph showing the effect of AII treatment on CFU-GM cell number on day 7 after culture initiation following bone marrow harvest 7 days after 5FU treatment.

Figure 17 is a graph showing the effect of AII treatment on CFU-GM cell number on day 7 after culture initiation following femur harvest 7 days after 5FU treatment.

Figure 18 is a graph showing the effect of AII treatment on CFU-GM cell number in the bone marrow on day 7 after 5FU treatment.

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Figure 19 is a graph showing the effect of AII treatment on CFU-GM cell number in the spleen on day 7 after 5FU treatment.

Figure 20 is a graph showing the effect of AII treatment on white blood cell number in the blood on day 14 after 5FU treatment.

Figure 21 is a graph of a different experiment showing the effect of AII treatment on white blood cell number in the blood on days 4, 7, and 10 after 5FU treatment.

Figure 22 is a graph showing the effect of AII(1-7) treatment on white blood cell number in the blood on day 14 after 5FU treatment.

Figure 23 is a graph showing the effect of 1GD treatment on white blood cell number in the blood on day 14 after 5FU treatment.

Figure 24 is a graph showing the effect of 2GD treatment on white blood cell number in the blood on day 14 after 5FU treatment.

Figure 25 is a graph showing the effect of 5GD treatment on white blood cell number in the blood on day 14 after 5FU treatment.

Figure 26 is a graph showing the effect of 9GD treatment on white blood cell number in the blood on day 14 after 5FU treatment.

Figure 27 is a graph showing the effect of 10 µg AII and AII analogues and fragments on GM-CFU numbers in the bone marrow on day 10 after 5FU treatment.

Figure 28 is a graph showing the effect of 100 μg AII and AII analogues and fragments on GM-CFU numbers in the bone marrow on day 10 after 5FU treatment.

Figure 29 is a graph showing the effect of 10 µg AII and AII analogues and fragments on GM-CFU numbers in the blood on day 10 after 5FU treatment.

Figure 30 is a graph showing the effect of 100 μg AII and AII analogues and fragments on GM-CFU numbers in the blood on day 10 after 5FU treatment.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

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All references patents and patent applications are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety.

Within this application, unless otherwise stated, the techniques utilized may be found in any of several well-known references such as: *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual* (Sambrook, et al., 1989, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press), *Gene Expression Technology* (Methods in Enzymology, Vol. 185, edited by D. Goeddel, 1991. Academic Press, San Diego, CA), "Guide to Protein Purification" in *Methods in Enzymology* (M.P. Deutshcer, ed., (1990) Academic Press, Inc.); *PCR Protocols: A Guide to Methods and Applications* (Innis, et al. 1990. Academic Press, San Diego, CA), *Culture of Animal Cells: A Manual of Basic Technique, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.* (R.I. Freshney. 1987. Liss, Inc. New York, NY), *Gene Transfer and Expression* 

Protocols, pp. 109-128, ed. E.J. Murray, The Humana Press Inc., Clifton, N.J.), and the Ambion 1998 Catalog (Ambion, Austin, TX).

As defined herein the phrase "white blood cells" refers to both undifferentiated hematopoietic stem cells, to committed hematopoietic progenitor cells, and to all white blood cells including, but not limited to megakaryocytes, platelets, monocytes, neutrophils, and lymphocytes.

U.S. Patent No. 5,015,629 to DiZerega (the entire disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference) describes a method for increasing the rate of healing of wound tissue, comprising the application to such tissue of angiotensin II (AII) in an amount which is sufficient for said increase. The application of AII to wound tissue significantly increases the rate of wound healing, leading to a more rapid re-epithelialization and tissue repair. The term AII refers to an octapeptide present in humans and other species having the sequence Asp-Arg-Val-Tyr-Ile-His-Pro-Phe [SEQ ID NO:1]. The biological formation of angiotensin is initiated by the action of renin on the plasma substrate angiotensinogen (Clouston et al., *Genomics* 2:240-248 (1988); Kageyama et al, *Biochemistry* 23:3603-3609; Ohkubo et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* 80:2196-2200 (1983); each reference hereby incorporated in its entirety). The substance so formed is a decapeptide called angiotensin I (AI) which is converted to AII by the angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) which removes the C-terminal His-Leu residues from AI [SEQ ID NO: 37]. AII is a known pressor agent and is commercially available.

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Studies have shown that AII increases mitogenesis and chemotaxis in cultured cells that are involved in wound repair, and also increases their release of growth factors and extracellular matrices (diZerega, U.S. Patent No. 5,015,629;

Dzau et. al., J. Mol. Cell. Cardiol. 21:S7 (Supp III) 1989; Berk et. al., Hypertension 13:305-14 (1989); Kawahara, et al., BBRC 150:52-9 (1988); Naftilan, et al., J. Clin. Invest. 83:1419-23 (1989); Taubman et al., J. Biol. Chem. 264:526-530 (1989); Nakahara, et al., BBRC 184:811-8 (1992); Stouffer and Owens, Circ. Res. 70:820 (1992); Wolf, et al., Am. J. Pathol. 140:95-107 (1992); Bell and Madri, Am. J. Pathol. 137:7-12 (1990). In addition, AII was shown to be angiogenic in rabbit corneal eye and chick chorioallantoic membrane models (Fernandez, et al., J. Lab. Clin. Med. 105:141 (1985); LeNoble, et al., Eur. J. Pharmacol. 195:305-6 (1991). Additionally, AII and angiotensin III analogs and fragments thereof have been shown to be effective in tissue repair. (U.S. Patent No. 5,629,292; International Application No. WO 95/08565; International Application WO 95/08337; International Application No. WO 96/39164; all references hereby incorporated in their entirety.)

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Angiotensin II and its sarcosine analogue have also been used in combination with cytotoxic drugs to induce hypertension in humans and experimental animals undergoing intra-arterial and intraperitoneal chemotherapy. (Taniguchi et al., J. Nuclear Medicine 37:1522-1523 (1996); Morita et al., Am. J. Clin. Oncol. 15:188-193 (1992); Ohigashi et al., Hepato-Gastroenterology 43:338-345 (1996); Cancer Chemother. Pharmacol. 39:113-121 (1996); Kuroiwa et al., Cancer Chemother. Pharmacol. 35:357-363 (1995); Li et al., Br. J. Cancer 67:975-980 (1993); Dworkin et al., Br. J. Cancer 76:1205-1210 (1997); Sato et al., World J. Surg. 19:836-842 (1995); Mutoh et al., Urol. Int. 48:175-180 (1992). In each of these cases, the use of angiotensin II was intended to selectively increase blood flow to the tumor vasculature relative to normal vasculature, thereby increasing the delivery of

cytotoxic agent to the tumor. None of these studies demonstrated or suggested that the use of angiotensin II or its sarcosine analogue would be effective in increasing white blood cell survival following chemotherapy.

Based on all of the above, it would be unexpected that the use of angiotensinogen, angiotensin I (AI), AI analogues, AI fragments and analogues thereof, AII, AII analogues, AII fragments or analogues thereof or AII AT<sub>2</sub> type 2 receptor agonists would be effective in increasing white blood cell survival following chemotherapy, or for mobilizing hematopoietic progenitor cells from bone marrow into peripheral blood.

A peptide agonist selective for the AT2 receptor (AII has 100 times higher affinity for AT2 than AT1) has been identified. This peptide is p-aminophenylalanine 6-AII ["(p-NH<sub>2</sub>-Phe)6-AII)"], Asp-Arg-Val-Tyr-Ile-Xaa-Pro-Phe [SEQ ID NO.36] wherein Xaa is p-NH<sub>2</sub>-Phe (Speth and Kim, BBRC 169:997-1006 (1990). This peptide gave binding characteristics comparable to AT2 antagonists in the experimental models tested (Catalioto, et al., *Eur. J. Pharmacol.* 256:93-97 (1994); Bryson, et al., *Eur. J. Pharmacol.* 225:119-127 (1992).

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The effects of AII receptor and AII receptor antagonists have been examined in two experimental models of vascular injury and repair which suggest that both AII receptor subtypes (AT1 and AT2) play a role in wound healing (Janiak et al., Hypertension 20:737-45 (1992); Prescott, et al., Am. J. Pathol. 139:1291-1296 (1991); Kauffman, et al., Life Sci. 49:223-228 (1991); Viswanathan, et al., Peptides 13:783-786 (1992); Kimura, et al., BBRC 187:1083-1090 (1992).

Many studies have focused upon AII(1-7) (AII residues 1-7) or other fragments of AII to evaluate their activity. AII(1-7) elicits some, but not the full

range of effects elicited by AII. Pfeilschifter, et al., Eur. J. Pharmacol. 225:57-62 (1992); Jaiswal, et al., Hypertension 19(Supp. II):II-49-II-55 (1992); Edwards and Stack, J. Pharmacol. Exper. Ther. 266:506-510 (1993); Jaiswal, et al., J. Pharmacol. Exper. Ther. 265:664-673 (1991); Jaiswal, et al., Hypertension 17:1115-1120 (1991); Portsi, et a., Br. J. Pharmacol. 111:652-654 (1994).

As hereinafter defined, a preferred class of AT2 agonists for use in accordance with the present invention comprises angiotensinogen, angiotensin I (AI), AI analogues, AI fragments and analogues thereof, AII, AII analogues, AII fragments or analogues thereof or AII AT2 type 2 receptor agonists having p-NH-Phe in a position corresponding to a position 6 of AII. In addition to peptide agents, various nonpeptidic agents (e.g., peptidomimetics) having the requisite AT2 agonist activity are further contemplated for use in accordance with the present invention.

The active AII analogues, fragments of AII and analogues thereof of particular interest in accordance with the present invention comprise a sequence consisting of at least three contiguous amino acids of groups R<sup>1</sup>-R<sup>8</sup> in the sequence of general

formula I

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$$R^{1}-R^{2}-R^{3}-R^{4}-R^{5}-R^{6}-R^{7}R^{8}$$

in which R1 and R2 together form a group of formula

 $X-R^A-R^B-$ 

wherein X is H or a one to three peptide group,

R<sup>A</sup> is suitably selected from Asp, Glu, Asn, Acpc (1-aminocyclopentane carboxylic acid), Ala, Me<sup>2</sup>Gly, Pro, Bet, Glu(NH<sub>2</sub>), Gly, Asp(NH<sub>2</sub>) and Suc,

R<sup>B</sup> is suitably selected from Arg, Lys, Ala, Orn, Ser(Ac), Sar, D-Arg and D-Lys;

R<sup>3</sup> is selected from the group consisting of Val, Ala, Leu, Lys, norLeu, Ile, Gly, Pro, Aib, Acpc and Tyr;

R<sup>4</sup> is selected from the group consisting of Tyr, Tyr(PO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, Thr, Ser, Ala, homoSer and azaTyr;

R<sup>5</sup> is selected from the group consisting of Ile, Ala, Leu, norLeu, Val and Gly;

R<sup>6</sup> is His, Arg or 6-NH<sub>2</sub>-Phe;

R<sup>7</sup> is Pro or Ala; and

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 $R^8$  is selected from the group consisting of Phe, Phe(Br), Ile and Tyr, excluding sequences including  $R^4$  as a terminal Tyr group.

Compounds falling within the category of AT2 agonists useful in the practice of the invention include the AII analogues set forth above subject to the restriction that R<sup>6</sup> is p-NH<sub>2</sub>-Phe. In a further preferred embodiment of all of the aspects of the invention, the sequence is selected from the group consisting of angiotensinogen, SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, SEQ ID NO:24, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:27, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:29, SEQ ID NO:30, SEQ ID NO:31, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO: 34; SEQ ID NO:35, SEQ ID NO:36, SEQ ID NO:37, SEQ ID NO:38, SEQ ID NO:39, SEQ ID NO:40, SEQ ID NO:41, and SEQ ID NO:42.

Particularly preferred combinations for R<sup>A</sup> and R<sup>B</sup> are Asp-Arg, Asp-Lys, Glu-Arg and Glu-Lys.

Particularly preferred embodiments of this class include the following: AII, AIII or AII(2-8), Arg-Val-Tyr-Ile-His-Pro-Phe [SEQ ID NO:2]; AII(3-8), also known as des1-AIII or AIV, Val-Tyr-Ile-His-Pro-Phe [SEQ ID NO:3]; AII(1-7), Asp-Arg-Val-Tyr-Ile-His-Pro {SEQ ID NO:4]; AII(2-7). Arg-Val-Tyr-Ile-His-Pro [SEQ ID NO:5]; AII(3-7), Val-Tyr-Ile-His-Pro [SEQ ID NO:6]; AII(5-8), Ile-His-Pro-Phe [SEQ ID NO:7]; AII(1-6), Asp-Arg-Val-Tyr-Ile-His [SEQ ID NO:8]; AII(1-5), Asp-Arg-Val-Tyr-Ile [SEQ ID NO:9]; AII(1-4), Asp-Arg-Val-Tyr [SEQ ID NO:10]; and AII(1-3), Asp-Arg-Val [SEQ ID NO:11]. Other preferred embodiments include: Arg-norLeu-Tyr-Ile-His-Pro-Phe [SEQ ID NO:12] and Arg-Val-Tyr-norLeu-His-Pro-Phe [SEQ ID NO:13]. Still another preferred embodiment encompassed within the scope of the invention is a peptide having the sequence Asp-Arg-Pro-Tyr-Ile-His-Pro-Phe [SEQ ID NO:31]. AII(6-8), His-Pro-Phe [SEQ ID NO:14] and AII(4-8), Tyr-Ile-His-Pro-Phe [SEQ ID NO:15] were also tested and found not to be effective.

In a particularly preferred embodiment, the active compounds of the present invention are selected from those comprising the following general formula:

Asp-Arg-R1-R2-Ile-His-Pro-R3, wherein

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R1 is selected from the group consisting of Val, Pro, Lys, Norleu, and Leu;
R2 is selected from the group consisting of Ala, Tyr, and Tyr(PO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>; and
R3 is Phe or is absent.

In a most particularly preferred embodiment, the active compound is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:31, SEQ ID

NO:32, SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO:38, SEQ ID NO:39, SEQ ID NO:40, and SEQ ID NO:41.

Another class of compounds of particular interest in accordance with the present invention are those of the general formula  $\Pi$ 

 $R^2-R^3-R^4-R^5-R^6-R^7-R^8$ 

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in which R<sup>2</sup> is selected from the group consisting of H, Arg, Lys, Ala, Orn, Ser(Ac), Sar, D-Arg and D-Lys;

R<sup>3</sup> is selected from the group consisting of Val, Ala, Leu, norLeu, Lys, Ile, Gly, Pro, Aib, Acpc and Tyr;

R<sup>4</sup> is selected from the group consisting of Tyr, Tyr(PO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, Thr, Ser, Ala homoSer and azaTyr;

R<sup>5</sup> is selected from the group consisting of Ile, Ala, Leu, norLeu, Val and Gly;

R<sup>6</sup> is His, Arg or 6-NH<sub>2</sub>-Phe;

R<sup>7</sup> is Pro or Ala; and

R<sup>8</sup> is selected from the group consisting of Phe, Phe(Br), Ile and Tyr.

A particularly preferred subclass of the compounds of general formula II has the formula

R<sup>2</sup>-R<sup>3</sup>-Tyr-R<sup>5</sup>-His-Pro-Phe [SEQ ID NO:16]

wherein R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> are as previously defined. Particularly preferred is angiotensin III of the formula Arg-Val-Tyr-Ile-His-Pro-Phe [SEQ ID NO:2]. Other preferred compounds include peptides having the structures Arg-Val-Tyr-Gly-His-

Pro-Phe [SEQ ID NO:17] and Arg-Val-Tyr-Ala-His-Pro-Phe [SEQ ID NO:18]. The fragment AII(4-8) was ineffective in repeated tests; this is believed to be due to the exposed tyrosine on the N-terminus.

In the above formulas, the standard three-letter abbreviations for amino acid residues are employed. In the absence of an indication to the contrary, the L-form of the amino acid is intended. Other residues are abbreviated as follows:

TABLE 1

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Abbreviation for Amino Acids

Me <sup>2</sup> Gly	N,N-dimethylglycyl
Bet	1-carboxy-N,N,N-trimethylmethanaminium hydroxide inner salt (betaine)
Suc	Succinyl
Phe(Br)	p-bromo-L-phenylalanyl
azaTyr	aza-α'-homo-L-tyrosyl
Асрс	1-aminocyclopentane carboxylic acid
Aib	2-aminoisobutyric acid
Sar	N-methylglycyl (sarcosine)

It has been suggested that AII and its analogues adopt either a gamma or a beta turn (Regoli, et al., Pharmacological Reviews 26:69 (1974). In general, it is believed that neutral side chains in position R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> may be involved in maintaining the appropriate distance between active groups in positions R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> primarily responsible for binding to receptors and/or intrinsic activity. Hydrophobic side chains in positions R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> may also play an important role

in the whole conformation of the peptide and/or contribute to the formation of a hypothetical hydrophobic pocket.

Appropriate side chains on the amino acid in position  $R^2$  may contribute to affinity of the compounds for target receptors and/or play an important role in the conformation of the peptide. For this reason, Arg and Lys are particularly preferred as  $R^2$ .

For purposes of the present invention, it is believed that R<sup>3</sup> may be involved in the formation of linear or nonlinear hydrogen bonds with R<sup>5</sup> (in the gamma turn model) or R<sup>6</sup> (in the beta turn model). R<sup>3</sup> would also participate in the first turn in a beta antiparallel structure (which has also been proposed as a possible structure). In contrast to other positions in general formula I, it appears that beta and gamma branching are equally effective in this position. Moreover, a single hydrogen bond may be sufficient to maintain a relatively stable conformation. Accordingly, R<sup>3</sup> may suitably be selected from Val, Ala, Leu, norLeu, Ile, Gly, Pro, Aib, Acpc and Tyr. Lys has also been found to be effective at position R<sup>3</sup>.

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With respect to R<sup>4</sup>, conformational analyses have suggested that the side chain in this position (as well as in R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>5</sup>) contribute to a hydrophobic cluster believed to be essential for occupation and stimulation of receptors. Thus, R<sup>4</sup> is preferably selected from Tyr, Thr, Tyr (PO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, homoSer, Ser and azaTyr. In this position, Tyr is particularly preferred as it may form a hydrogen bond with the receptor site capable of accepting a hydrogen from the phenolic hydroxyl (Regoli, et al. (1974), supra). Ala has also been found to be effective at position R<sup>4</sup>.

In position  $R^5$ , an amino acid with a  $\beta$  aliphatic or alicyclic chain is particularly desirable. Therefore, while Gly is suitable in position  $R^5$ , it is preferred

that the amino acid in this position be selected from Ile, Ala, Leu, norLeu, Gly and Val.

In the angiotensinogen, AI, AI analogues, AI fragments and analogues thereof, AII analogues, fragments and analogues of fragments of particular interest in accordance with the present invention, R<sup>6</sup> is His, Arg or 6-NH<sub>2</sub>-Phe. The unique properties of the imidazole ring of histidine (e.g., ionization at physiological pH, ability to act as proton donor or acceptor, aromatic character) are believed to contribute to its particular utility as R<sup>6</sup>. For example, conformational models suggest that His may participate in hydrogen bond formation (in the *beta* model) or in the second turn of the antiparallel structure by influencing the orientation of R<sup>7</sup>. Similarly, it is presently considered that R<sup>7</sup> should be Pro in order to provide the most desirable orientation of R<sup>8</sup>. In position R<sup>8</sup>, both a hydrophobic ring and an anionic carboxyl terminal appear to be particularly useful in binding of the analogues of interest to receptors; therefore, Tyr and especially Phe are preferred for purposes of the present invention.

Analogues of particular interest include the following:

TABLE 2
Angiotensin II Analogues

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AII	Amino Acid Sequence	Sequence
Analogue		Identifier
Name		
Analogue l	Asp-Arg-Val-Tyr-Val-His-Pro-Phe	SEQ ID NO: 19
Analogue 2	Asn-Arg-Val-Tyr-Val-His-Pro-Phe	SEQ ID NO: 20
Analogue 3	Ala-Pro-Gly-Asp-Arg-Ile-Tyr-Val-His-Pro-Phe	SEQ ID NO: 21
Analogue 4	Glu-Arg-Val-Tyr-Ile-His-Pro-Phe	SEQ ID NO: 22
Analogue 5	Asp-Lys-Val-Tyr-Ile-His-Pro-Phe	SEQ ID NO: 23
Analogue 6	Asp-Arg-Ala-Tyr-Ile-His-Pro-Phe	SEQ ID NO: 24
Analogue 7	Asp-Arg-Val-Thr-Ile-His-Pro-Phe.	SEQ ID NO: 25
Analogue 8	Asp-Arg-Val-Tyr-Leu-His-Pro-Phe	SEQ ID NO: 26

Analogue	Asp-Arg-Val-Tyr-Ile-Arg-Pro-Phe	SEQ ID NO: 27
Analogue 9	Asp-Arg-Val-Tyr-Ile-His-Ala-Phe	SEQ ID NO: 28
Analogue 10	Asp-Arg-Val-Tyr-Ile-His-Pro-Tyr	SEQ ID NO: 29
Analogue 11	Pro-Arg-Val-Tyr-Ile-His-Pro-Phe	SEQ ID NO: 30
Analogue 12	Asp-Arg-Pro-Tyr-Ile-His-Pro-Phe	SEQ ID NO: 31
Analogue 13	Asp-Arg-Val-Tyr(PO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> -Ile-His-Pro-Phe	SEQ ID NO: 32
Analogue 14	Asp-Arg-norLeu-Tyr-Ile-His-Pro-Phe	SEQ ID NO: 33
Analogue 15	Asp-Arg-Not-Leu-Tyr-nor-Leu-His-Pro-Phe	SEQ ID NO: 34
Analogue 16	w TT: TO TO	SEQ ID NO: 35
Analogue 17	Asp-Aig-vai-Homodel-Tyl-He xxt 110	

The polypeptides of the instant invention may be produced by any standard method, including but not limited to recombinant DNA technology and conventional synthetic methods including, but not limited to, those set forth in J. M. Stewart and J. D. Young, Solid Phase Peptide Synthesis, 2nd ed., Pierce Chemical Co., Rockford, Ill. (1984) and J. Meienhofer, Hormonal Proteins and Peptides, Vol. 2, Academic Press, New York, (1973) for solid phase synthesis and E. Schroder and K. Lubke, The Peptides, Vol. 1, Academic Press, New York, (1965) for solution synthesis. The disclosures of the foregoing treatises are incorporated by reference herein.

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In general, these methods involve the sequential addition of protected amino acids to a growing peptide chain (U.S. Patent No. 5,693,616, herein incorporated by reference in its entirety). Normally, either the amino or carboxyl group of the first amino acid and any reactive side chain group are protected. This protected amino acid is then either attached to an inert solid support, or utilized in solution, and the next amino acid in the sequence, also suitably protected, is added under conditions amenable to formation of the amide linkage. After all the desired amino acids have been linked in the proper sequence, protecting groups and any solid support are removed to afford the crude polypeptide. The polypeptide is desalted and purified, preferably chromatographically, to yield the final product.

Preferably, peptides are synthesized according to standard solid-phase methodologies, such as may be performed on an Applied Biosystems Model 430A peptide synthesizer (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, Calif.), according to manufacturer's instructions. Other methods of synthesizing peptides or peptidomimetics, either by solid phase methodologies or in liquid phase, are well known to those skilled in the art.

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In one aspect, the present invention provides methods and kits for increasing white blood cell survival following chemotherapy comprising the administration of angiotensinogen, angiotensin I (AI), AI analogues, AI fragments and analogues thereof, angiotensin II (AII), AII analogues, AII fragments or analogues thereof or AII AT<sub>2</sub> type 2 receptor agonists (hereinafter referred to as "active agents").

In another aspect, the present invention provides methods and kits for mobilizing hematopoietic progenitor cells from bone marrow into peripheral blood comprising the administration of the active agents of the invention to a patient in need of such treatment. This aspect of the invention can also be used to treat a patient in need of chemotherapy.

The methods of the invention are appropriate for use with chemotherapy using any cytotoxic agent, including, but not limited to, cyclophosphamide, taxol, 5-fluorouracil, adriamycin, cisplatinum, methotrexate, cytosine arabinoside, mitomycin C, prednisone, vindesine, carbaplatinum, and vincristine. The cytotoxic agent can also be an antiviral compound which is capable of destroying proliferating cells. For a general discussion of cytotoxic agents used in chemotherapy, see Sathe, M. et al., Cancer Chemotherapeutic Agents: Handbook of Clinical Data (1978), hereby incorporated by reference.

The methods of the invention are also particularly suitable for those patients in need of repeated or high doses of chemotherapy. For some cancer patients, hematopoietic toxicity frequently limits the opportunity for chemotherapy dose escalation. Repeated or high dose cycles of chemotherapy may be responsible for severe stem cell depletion leading to important long-term hematopoietic sequelea and marrow exhaustion. The methods of the present invention provide for improved mortality and blood cell count when used in conjunction with chemotherapy.

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The active agents may be administered by any suitable route, including orally, parentally, by inhalation spray, rectally, or topically in dosage unit formulations containing conventional pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, adjuvants, and vehicles. The term parenteral as used herein includes, subcutaneous, intravenous, intraarterial, intramuscular, intrasternal, intratendinous, intraspinal, intracranial, intrathoracic, infusion techniques or intraperitoneally.

The active agents may be made up in a solid form (including granules, powders or suppositories) or in a liquid form (e.g., solutions, suspensions, or emulsions). The compounds of the invention may be applied in a variety of solutions. Suitable solutions for use in accordance with the invention are sterile, dissolve sufficient amounts of the peptide, and are not harmful for the proposed application. In this regard, the compounds of the present invention are very stable but are hydrolyzed by strong acids and bases. The compounds of the present invention are soluble in organic solvents and in aqueous solutions at pH 5-8.

The active agents may be subjected to conventional pharmaceutical operations such as sterilization and/or may contain conventional adjuvants, such as preservatives, stabilizers, wetting agents, emulsifiers, buffers etc.

For administration, the active agents are ordinarily combined with one or more adjuvants appropriate for the indicated route of administration. The compounds may be admixed with lactose, sucrose, starch powder, cellulose esters of alkanoic acids, stearic acid, talc, magnesium stearate, magnesium oxide, sodium and calcium salts of phosphoric and sulphuric acids, acacia, gelatin, sodium alginate, polyvinylpyrrolidine, and/or polyvinyl alcohol, and tableted or encapsulated for conventional administration. Alternatively, the compounds of this invention may be dissolved in saline, water, polyethylene glycol, propylene glycol, carboxymethyl cellulose colloidal solutions, ethanol, corn oil, peanut oil, cottonseed oil, sesame oil, tragacanth gum, and/or various buffers. Other adjuvants and modes of administration are well known in the pharmaceutical art. The carrier or diluent may include time delay material, such as glyceryl monostearate or glyceryl distearate alone or with a wax, or other materials well known in the art.

Formulations suitable for topical administration include liquid or semi-liquid preparations suitable for penetration through the skin (e.g., liniments, lotions, ointments, creams, or pastes) and drops suitable for administration to the eye, ear, or nose.

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The dosage regimen for increasing white blood cell survival following chemotherapy and mobilizing hematopoietic progenitor cells from bone marrow into peripheral blood with the active agents is based on a variety of factors, including the type of injury, the age, weight, sex, medical condition of the individual, the severity

of the condition, the route of administration, and the particular compound employed. Thus, the dosage regimen may vary widely, but can be determined routinely by a physician using standard methods. Dosage levels of the order of between 0.1 ng/kg and 10 mg/kg body weight of the active agents per body weight are useful for all methods of use disclosed herein.

The treatment regime will also vary depending on the disease being treated, based on a variety of factors, including the type of injury, the age, weight, sex, medical condition of the individual, the severity of the condition, the route of administration, and the particular compound employed. For example, the active agents are administered to an oncology patient for up to 30 days prior to a course of chemotherapy and for up to 60 days post-chemotherapy. The therapy is administered for 1 to 6 times per day at dosages as described above.

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In all of these embodiments, the compounds of the invention can be administered either prior to, simultaneously with, or subsequent to chemotherapeutic exposure.

In a preferred embodiment, the active agent is administered subcutaneously. A suitable subcutaneous dose of the active agent is preferably between about 0.1 ng/kg and about 10 mg/kg administered twice daily for a time sufficient to increase white blood cell survival after chemotherapy treatment or to mobilize hematopoietic progenitor cells from bone marrow into peripheral blood. In a more preferred embodiment, the concentration of active agent is between about 100 ng/kg body weight and about 10.0 mg/kg body weight. In a most preferred embodiment, the concentration of active agent is between about 10 µg/kg body weight and about 10.0 mg/kg body weight. This dosage regimen maximizes the therapeutic benefits of the

subject invention while minimizing the amount of agonist needed. Such an application minimizes costs as well as possible deleterious side effects.

For subcutaneous administration, the active ingredient may comprise from 0.0001% to 10% w/w, e.g., from 1% to 2% by weight of the formulation, although it may comprise as much as 10% w/w, but preferably not more than 5% w/w, and more preferably from 0.1% to 1% of the formulation.

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In another preferred embodiment of the present invention, the active agent is administered topically. Suitable topical doses and active ingredient concentration in the formulation are as described for subcutaneous administration.

In a most preferred embodiment, subcutaneous administration of between about 1 to 1000 µg/kg/day of the active agents is initiated at between one week before to one week after administration of a chemotherapeutic agent.

In another preferred embodiment of the invention, a subject undergoes repeated cycles of treatment according to the method of this invention. Preferably, a subsequent treatment cycle commences only after the administration of the compounds of the invention have been terminated and the subject's blood cell counts (e.g., white blood cell count) have returned to a therapeutically acceptable level (as determined by the attending veterinarian or physician), permitting the repeated chemotherapy.

In a further aspect, the present invention provides kits for increasing white blood cell survival following chemotherapy and/or mobilizing hematopoietic progenitor cells from bone marrow into peripheral blood, wherein the kits comprise an effective amount of the active agents for increasing white blood cell survival following chemotherapy or for mobilizing hematopoietic progenitor cells from bone

marrow into peripheral blood, and instructions for using the amount effective of active agent as a therapeutic. In a preferred embodiment, the kit further comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, such as those adjuvants described above. In another preferred embodiment, the kit further comprises a means for delivery of the active agent to a patient. Such devices include, but are not limited to syringes, matrical or micellar solutions, bandages, wound dressings, aerosol sprays, lipid foams, transdermal patches, topical administrative agents, polyethylene glycol polymers, carboxymethyl cellulose preparations, crystalloid preparations (e.g., saline, Ringer's lactate solution, phosphate-buffered saline, etc.), viscoelastics, polyethylene glycols, and polypropylene glycols. The means for delivery may either contain the effective amount of the active agents, or may be separate from the compounds, which are then applied to the means for delivery at the time of use.

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In another aspect of the invention, the method comprises pharmaceutical compositions for use in increasing white blood cell survival and/or mobilizing hematopoietic progenitor cells from bone marrow into peripheral blood following chemotherapy, comprising the active agents of the invention, an amount effective for decreasing the growth or neoplastic cells of an anti-neoplastic agent, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. According to this aspect of the invention, any cytotoxic agent can be included in the pharmaceutical composition, including, but not limited to, cyclophosphamide, taxol, 5-fluorouracil, adriamycin, cisplatinum, methotrexate, cytosine arabinoside, mitomycin C, prednisone, vindesine, carbaplatinum, and vincristine. The cytotoxic agent can also be an antiviral compound that is capable of destroying proliferating cells. For a general discussion of cytotoxic agents used in chemotherapy, see Sathe, M. et al., Cancer

Chemotherapeutic Agents: Handbook of Clinical Data (1978), hereby incorporated by reference.

The methods, kits, and pharmaceutical compositions of the present invention, by increasing white blood cell survival following chemotherapy and mobilizing hematopoietic progenitor cells from bone marrow into peripheral blood, significantly enhance the utility of presently available treatments for clinical chemotherapeutic treatments.

The present invention may be better understood with reference to the accompanying example that is intended for purposes of illustration only and should not be construed to limit the scope of the invention, as defined by the claims appended hereto.

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Example 1. Effect of AII on white blood cell mobilization and recovery after 5 fluorouracil treatment

This study was designed to test the effect of All on the recovery of white blood cells in lymphoid organs and on the level of granulocyte macrophage precursors (CFU-GM) in the blood (ie: mobilization), spleen (mobilization), and bone marrow (recovery) after intravenous administration of 5-fluorouracil (5FU).

Subcutaneous administration of AII (either 10 or 100 µg/dg/day) was initiated either two days before (-d2), the day of (d0), or two days after (d2) intravenous administration of 5FU. On either day 7 or 14 after 5FU administration, the animals were necropsied and the spleen, thymus, peripheral blood, and bone marrow were harvested. The number of white blood cells in each of the lymphoid organs or the number of CFU-GM present in all the organs except the thymus were

then assessed. The number of white blood cells per lymphoid organ was assessed after (1) dissociation of the tissues into a single cell suspension (thymus and spleen), (2) flushing of bone marrow from the femur, or (3) lysis of red blood cells by a hypotonic ammonium chloride solution. An aliquot of the cell suspension was diluted with 0.04% trypan blue and the number of cells was determined by microscopic analysis using a hematocytometer. After counting, the number of cells were adjusted to allow a 1:10 dilution of cells into semi-solid medium containing fetal bovine serum, bovine serum albumin, methyl cellulose, rm stem cell factor, rm interleukin 3, rh interleukin 6, L-glutamine, 2 mercaptoethanol, human transferrin and bovine insulin. On day 7 after culture initiation, the number of CFU-GM per well (and then per organ) was determined by microscopic analysis (Figures 1-20). These data demonstrate that AII treatment after chemotherapy leads to significantly enhanced white blood cell mobilization and/or recovery in all of the tissues tested.

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# 15 Example 2. Effect of AII analogues and fragments on white blood cell mobilization and recovery after 5 fluorouracil treatment

The method was conducted as described above in Example 1, except that mice were injected subcutaneously with 150 mg/kg body weight of 5FU, and AII peptide analogues and fragments were tested. Administration of the peptides (see Table 3) was begun 2 days after and continued until 10 days after 5FU administration, at which time the mice were euthenized for evaluation of bone marrow and blood GM-CFU progenitors. On days 4 and 7 after 5FU administration, blood was taken under anesthesia from the retro-orbital sinus. On day 10, blood was taken by cardiac puncture.

The data for these experiments is shown in Figures 21-30, and demonstrate that all peptides tested accelerated the recovery of white blood cells after chemotherapy (Figures 21-26), increased the number of GM-CFU progenitors in the bone marrow (Figures 27-28), and increased the mobilization of GM-CFU progenitors from the bone marrow into the peripheral blood (Figures 29-30), relative to controls. The peptides were effective at both concentrations tested (10 µg/kg/day and 100 µg/kg/day), and the efficacy generally increased with increasing length of treatment.

		The state of the s	
10	Table 3:	 Designation for Analogues/Fragments	
LU	I HOLO D.	Designation for Indiana Bureau and	

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	Name	Abbreviation	Sequence	<b>SEQ ID NO:</b>
	1GD	Ala4-AII(1-7)	DRVAIHP	SEQ ID NO:38
	2GD	Pro3-AII(1-7)	DRPYIHP	SEQ ID NO:39
15	5GD	Lys3-AII(1-7)	DRKYIHP	SEQ ID NO:40
•••	9GD	NorLeu-AII(1-7)	DR(nor)YIHP	SEQ ID NO:41
	AII(1-7)		DRVYIHP	SEQ ID NO:4
	AII	•	DRVYIHPF	SEQ ID NO. 1

It is to be understood that the invention is not to be limited to the exact details of operation, or to the exact compounds, compositions, methods, procedures or embodiments shown and described, as obvious modifications and equivalents will be apparent to one skilled in the art, and the invention is therefore to be limited only by the full scope of the appended claims.

We claim:

1. A method for increasing white blood cell survival following chemotherapy comprising the administration of an amount effective for increasing white blood cell survival following chemotherapy of at least one active agent comprising a sequence consisting of at least three contiguous amino acids of groups R<sup>1</sup>-R<sup>8</sup> in the sequence of general formula I

$$R^{1}-R^{2}-R^{3}-R^{4}-R^{5}-R^{6}-R^{7}R^{8}$$

in which R1 and R2 together form a group of formula

 $X-R^A-R^B$ -,

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wherein X is H or a one to three peptide group,

R<sup>A</sup> is suitably selected from Asp, Glu, Asn, Acpc (1-aminocyclopentane carboxylic acid), Ala, Me<sup>2</sup>Gly, Pro, Bet, Glu(NH<sub>2</sub>), Gly, Asp(NH<sub>2</sub>) and Suc,

R<sup>B</sup> is suitably selected from Arg, Lys, Ala, Orn, Ser(Ac), Sar, D-Arg and D-Lys;

R<sup>3</sup> is selected from the group consisting of Val, Ala, Leu, Lys, norLeu, Ile, Gly, Pro, Aib, Acpc and Tyr;

R<sup>4</sup> is selected from the group consisting of Tyr, Tyr(PO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, Thr, Ser, Ala, homoSer and azaTyr;

R<sup>5</sup> is selected from the group consisting of Ile, Ala, Leu, norLeu, Val and Gly;

R<sup>6</sup> is His, Arg or 6-NH<sub>2</sub>-Phe;

R<sup>7</sup> is Pro or Ala; and

 $R^8$  is selected from the group consisting of Phe, Phe(Br), Ile and Tyr, excluding sequences including  $R^4$  as a terminal Tyr group.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of angiotensinogen, SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, SEQ ID NO:24, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:27, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:29, SEQ ID NO:30, SEQ ID NO:31, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO: 34; SEQ ID NO:35, SEQ ID NO:36, SEQ ID NO:37, SEQ ID NO:38, SEQ ID NO:39, SEQ ID NO:40, SEQ ID NO:41, and SEQ ID NO:42.

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- 3. A kit for increasing white blood cell survival following chemotherapy, comprising:
- (a) an amount effective to increasing white blood cell survival following chemotherapy of at least one active agent comprising a sequence consisting of at least three contiguous amino acids of groups R<sup>1</sup>-R<sup>8</sup> in the sequence of general formula I

$$R^{1}-R^{2}-R^{3}-R^{4}-R^{5}-R^{6}-R^{7}-R^{8}$$

in which R1 and R2 together form a group of formula

$$X-R^A-R^B-$$
,

wherein X is H or a one to three peptide group,

R<sup>A</sup> is suitably selected from Asp, Glu, Asn, Acpc (1-aminocyclopentane carboxylic acid), Ala, Me<sup>2</sup>Gly, Pro, Bet, Glu(NH<sub>2</sub>), Gly, Asp(NH<sub>2</sub>) and Suc,

R<sup>B</sup> is suitably selected from Arg, Lys, Ala, Orn, Ser(Ac), Sar, D-Arg and D-Lys;

R<sup>3</sup> is selected from the group consisting of Val, Ala, Leu, Lys, norLeu, Ile, Gly, Pro, Aib, Acpc and Tyr;

 $R^4$  is selected from the group consisting of Tyr, Tyr(PO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, Thr, Ser, Ala, homoSer and azaTyr;

R<sup>5</sup> is selected from the group consisting of Ile, Ala, Leu, norLeu, Val and Gly;

R<sup>6</sup> is His, Arg or 6-NH<sub>2</sub>-Phe;

R7 is Pro or Ala; and

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 $R^8$  is selected from the group consisting of Phe, Phe(Br), Ile and Tyr, excluding sequences including  $R^4$  as a terminal Tyr group; and

- (b) instructions for using the amount effective of active agent for increasing white blood cell survival following chemotherapy.
- 4. The kit of claim 3 wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of angiotensinogen, SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, SEQ ID NO:24, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:27, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:29, SEQ ID NO:30, SEQ ID

NO:31, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO: 34; SEQ ID NO:35, SEQ ID NO:36, SEQ ID NO:37, SEQ ID NO:38, SEQ ID NO:39, SEQ ID NO:40, SEQ ID NO:41, and SEQ ID NO:42.

- 5. The kit of claim 3, further comprising a means for delivery of the active agent.
  - 6. A method for increasing white blood cell survival following chemotherapy comprising the administration of an amount effective for increasing white blood cell survival following chemotherapy of at least one active agent comprising a sequence consisting of the following general formula:
- Asp-Arg-R1-R2-Ile-His-Pro-R3, wherein
  R1 is selected from the group consisting of Val, Pro, Lys, Norleu, and Leu;
  R2 is selected from the group consisting of Ala, Tyr, and Tyr(PO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>; and
  R3 is Phe or is absent.
  - 7. The method of claim 6 wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:31, SEQ ID NO:32, SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO:38, SEQ ID NO:39, SEQ ID NO:40, and SEQ ID NO:41.
    - 8. A kit for increasing white blood cell survival following chemotherapy, comprising:
- (a) an amount effective to increasing white blood cell survival following
  chemotherapy of at least one active agent comprising a sequence consisting of at
  least one active agent comprising a sequence consisting of the following general
  formula:

Asp-Arg-R1-R2-Ile-His-Pro-R3, wherein

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R1 is selected from the group consisting of Val, Pro, Lys, Norleu, and Leu;

R2 is selected from the group consisting of Ala, Tyr, and Tyr(PO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>; and R3 is Phe or is absent; and

- (b) instructions for using the amount effective of active agent for increasing white blood cell survival following chemotherapy.
- 5 9. The kit of claim 8 wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:31, SEQ ID NO:32, SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO:38, SEQ ID NO:39, SEQ ID NO:40, and SEQ ID NO:41.
  - 10. The kit of claim 8, further comprising a means for delivery of the active agent.
- 10 11. A method for mobilizing hematopoietic progenitor cells from bone marrow into peripheral blood comprising the administration of an amount effective for mobilizing hematopoietic progenitor cells from bone marrow into peripheral blood of at least one active agent comprising a sequence consisting of at least three contiguous amino acids of groups R<sup>1</sup>-R<sup>8</sup> in the sequence of general formula I

 $R^{1}-R^{2}-R^{3}-R^{4}-R^{5}-R^{6}-R^{7}R^{8}$ 

in which R1 and R2 together form a group of formula

 $X-R^A-R^B-$ 

in which R1 and R2 together form a group of formula

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 $X-R^A-R^B$ -,

wherein X is H or a one to three peptide group,

R<sup>A</sup> is suitably selected from Asp, Glu, Asn, Acpc (1-aminocyclopentane carboxylic acid), Ala, Me<sup>2</sup>Gly, Pro, Bet, Glu(NH<sub>2</sub>), Gly, Asp(NH<sub>2</sub>) and Suc,

R<sup>B</sup> is suitably selected from Arg, Lys, Ala, Orn, Ser(Ac), Sar, D-Arg and D-Lys;

R<sup>3</sup> is selected from the group consisting of Val, Ala, Leu, Lys, norLeu, Ile, Gly, Pro, Aib, Acpc and Tyr;

R<sup>4</sup> is selected from the group consisting of Tyr, Tyr(PO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, Thr, Ser, Ala, homoSer and azaTyr;

R<sup>5</sup> is selected from the group consisting of Ile, Ala, Leu, norLeu, Val and Gly;

R<sup>6</sup> is His, Arg or 6-NH<sub>2</sub>-Phe;

R<sup>7</sup> is Pro or Ala; and

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R<sup>8</sup> is selected from the group consisting of Phe, Phe(Br), Ile and Tyr, excluding sequences including R<sup>4</sup> as a terminal Tyr group.

- 12. The method of claim 11 wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of angiotensinogen, SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, SEQ ID NO:24, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:27, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:29, SEQ ID NO:30, SEQ ID NO:31, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO: 34; SEQ ID NO:35, SEQ ID NO:36, SEQ ID NO:37, SEQ ID NO:38, SEQ ID NO:39, SEQ ID NO:40, SEQ ID NO:41, and SEQ ID NO:42.
- 13. The method of claim 11 wherein the active agent is administered to a patient in need of chemotherapy.

14. A kit for mobilizing hematopoietic progenitor cells from bone marrow into peripheral blood, comprising:

(a) an amount effective to mobilize hematopoietic progenitor cells from bone marrow into peripheral blood of at least one active agent comprising a sequence consisting of at least three contiguous amino acids of groups R<sup>1</sup>-R<sup>8</sup> in the sequence of general formula I

$$R^{1}-R^{2}-R^{3}-R^{4}-R^{5}-R^{6}-R^{7}-R^{8}$$

in which R1 and R2 together form a group of formula

$$X-R^A-R^B-$$

in which R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> together form a group of formula

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$$X-R^A-R^B-$$

wherein X is H or a one to three peptide group,

R<sup>A</sup> is suitably selected from Asp, Glu, Asn, Acpc (1-aminocyclopentane carboxylic acid), Ala, Me<sup>2</sup>Gly, Pro, Bet, Glu(NH<sub>2</sub>), Gly, Asp(NH<sub>2</sub>) and Suc,

R<sup>B</sup> is suitably selected from Arg, Lys, Ala, Orn, Ser(Ac), Sar, D-Arg and D-Lys;

R<sup>3</sup> is selected from the group consisting of Val, Ala, Leu, Lys, norLeu, Ile, Gly, Pro, Aib, Acpc and Tyr;

R<sup>4</sup> is selected from the group consisting of Tyr, Tyr(PO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, Thr, Ser, Ala, homoSer and azaTyr;

R<sup>5</sup> is selected from the group consisting of Ile, Ala, Leu, norLeu, Val and Gly;

R<sup>6</sup> is His, Arg or 6-NH<sub>2</sub>-Phe;

R<sup>7</sup> is Pro or Ala; and

R<sup>8</sup> is selected from the group consisting of Phe, Phe(Br), Ile and Tyr, excluding sequences including R<sup>4</sup> as a terminal Tyr group; and

- (b) instructions for using the amount effective of active agent for
   mobilizing hematopoietic progenitor cells from bone marrow into peripheral blood.
  - The kit of claim 14 wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of angiotensinogen, SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, SEQ ID NO:24, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:27, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:29, SEQ ID NO:30, SEQ ID NO:31, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO: 34; SEQ ID NO:35, SEQ ID NO:36, SEQ ID NO:37, SEQ ID NO:38, SEQ ID NO:39, SEQ ID NO:40, SEQ ID NO:41, and SEQ ID NO:42.
    - 16. The kit of claim 14, further comprising a means for delivery of the active agent.
    - 17. A method for increasing mobilizing hematopoietic progenitor cells from bone marrow into peripheral blood comprising the administration of an amount effective for mobilizing hematopoietic progenitor cells from bone marrow into peripheral blood of at least one active agent comprising a sequence consisting of the following general formula:

Asp-Arg-R1-R2-Ile-His-Pro-R3, wherein

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R1 is selected from the group consisting of Val, Pro, Lys, Norleu, and Leu;

R2 is selected from the group consisting of Ala, Tyr, and Tyr(PO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>; and R3 is Phe or is absent.

- 18. The method of claim 17 wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:31, SEQ ID NO:32, SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO:38, SEQ ID NO:39, SEQ ID NO:40, and SEQ ID NO:41.
- 19. The method of claim 17 wherein the active agent is administered to a patient in need of chemotherapy.
- 20. A kit for mobilizing hematopoietic progenitor cells from bone marrow into peripheral blood, comprising:
- (a) an amount effective to mobilize hematopoietic progenitor cells from bone marrow into peripheral blood of at least one active agent comprising a sequence consisting of at least one active agent comprising a sequence consisting of the following general formula:

Asp-Arg-R1-R2-Ile-His-Pro-R3, wherein

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- R1 is selected from the group consisting of Val, Pro, Lys, Norleu, and Leu;
  R2 is selected from the group consisting of Ala, Tyr, and Tyr(PO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>; and
  R3 is Phe or is absent; and
  - (b) instructions for using the amount effective of active agent for mobilizing hematopoietic progenitor cells from bone marrow into peripheral blood.
- 21. The kit of claim 20 wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:31, SEQ ID NO:32, SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO:38, SEQ ID NO:39, SEQ ID NO:40, and SEQ ID NO:41.
  - 22. The kit of claim 18, further comprising a means for delivery of the active agent.

23. A pharmaceutical composition for use in increasing white blood cell survival and/or mobilizing hematopoietic progenitor cells from bone marrow into peripheral blood following chemotherapy comprising

(a) an amount effective for increasing white blood cell survival and/or mobilizing hematopoietic progenitor cells from bone marrow into peripheral blood following chemotherapy of at least one active agent comprising a sequence consisting of at least three contiguous amino acids of groups R<sup>1</sup>-R<sup>8</sup> in the sequence of general formula I

$$R^{1}-R^{2}-R^{3}-R^{4}-R^{5}-R^{6}-R^{7}-R^{8}$$

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in which R1 and R2 together form a group of formula

$$X-R^A-R^B$$
-,

wherein X is H or a one to three peptide group,

R<sup>A</sup> is suitably selected from Asp, Glu, Asn, Acpc (1-aminocyclopentane carboxylic acid), Ala, Me<sup>2</sup>Gly, Pro, Bet, Glu(NH<sub>2</sub>), Gly, Asp(NH<sub>2</sub>) and Suc,

R<sup>B</sup> is suitably selected from Arg, Lys, Ala, Orn, Ser(Ac), Sar, D-Arg and D-Lys;

R<sup>3</sup> is selected from the group consisting of Val, Ala, Leu, Lys, norLeu, Ile, Gly, Pro, Aib, Acpc and Tyr;

R<sup>4</sup> is selected from the group consisting of Tyr, Tyr(PO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, Thr, Ser, Ala, homoSer and azaTyr;

R<sup>5</sup> is selected from the group consisting of Ile, Ala, Leu, norLeu, Val and Gly;

R<sup>6</sup> is His, Arg or 6-NH<sub>2</sub>-Phe;

R7 is Pro or Ala; and

 $R^8$  is selected from the group consisting of Phe, Phe(Br), Ile and Tyr, excluding sequences including  $R^4$  as a terminal Tyr group;

- (b) an amount effective for decreasing the growth of tumor cells of a cytotoxic agent; and
  - (c) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

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- 24. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 23 wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of angiotensinogen, SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, SEQ ID NO:24, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:27, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:29, SEQ ID NO:30, SEQ ID NO:31, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO: 34; SEQ ID NO:35, SEQ ID NO:36, SEQ ID NO:37, SEQ ID NO:38, SEQ ID NO:39, SEQ ID NO:40, SEQ ID NO:41.
  - 25. A pharmaceutical composition for use in increasing white blood cell survival and/or mobilizing hematopoietic progenitor cells from bone marrow into peripheral blood following chemotherapy comprising
- (a) an amount effective for increasing white blood cell survival and/or mobilizing hematopoietic progenitor cells from bone marrow into peripheral blood following chemotherapy of at least one active agent comprising a sequence consisting of at least three contiguous amino acids of groups R<sup>1</sup>-R<sup>8</sup> in the sequence of the following general formula:

Asp-Arg-R1-R2-Ile-His-Pro-R3, wherein

R1 is selected from the group consisting of Val, Pro, Lys, Norleu, and Leu;
R2 is selected from the group consisting of Ala, Tyr, and Tyr(PO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>; and
R3 is Phe or is absent;

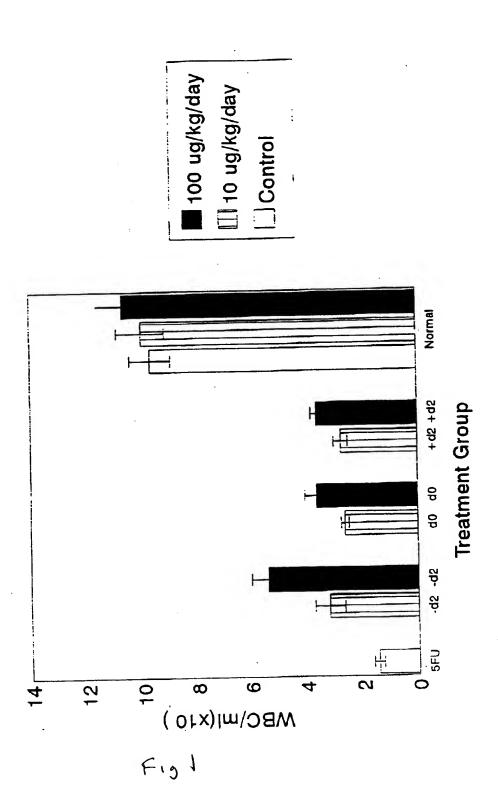
- (b) an amount effective for decreasing the growth of tumor cells of a cytotoxic agent; and
  - (c) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier

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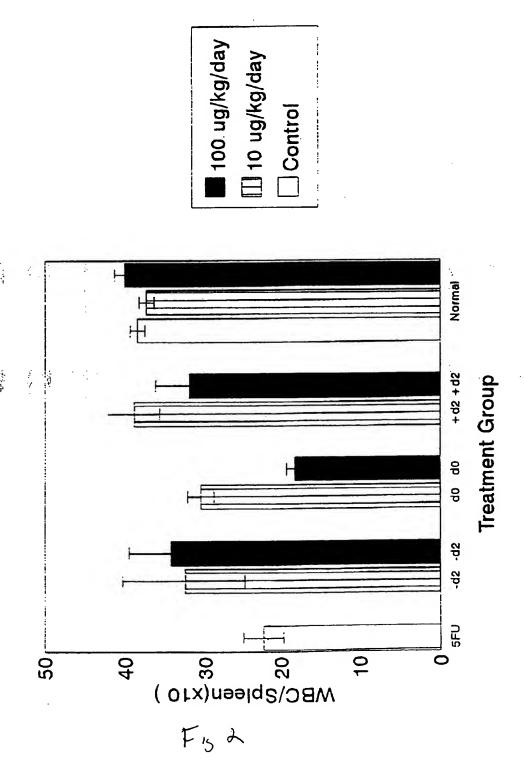
26. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 25 wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:31, SEQ ID NO:32, SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO:38, SEQ ID NO:39, SEQ ID NO:40, and SEQ ID NO:41.

Effect of Angiotensin II on White Blood Cell Number



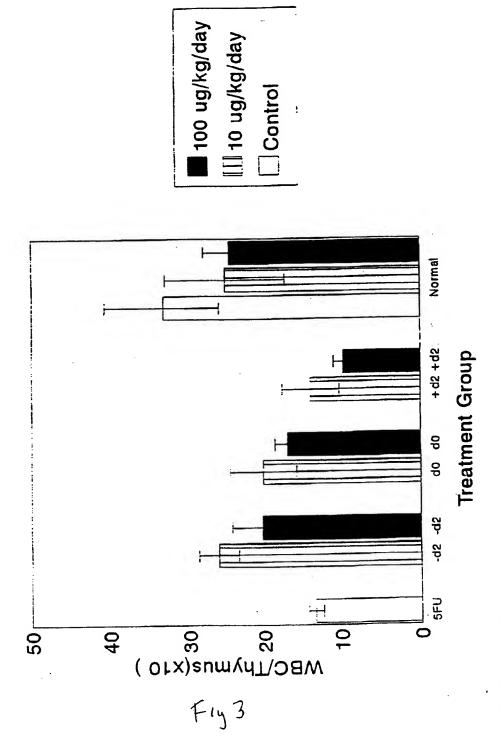
RICCA CAV

Effect of Angiotensin II on White Blood Cell Number



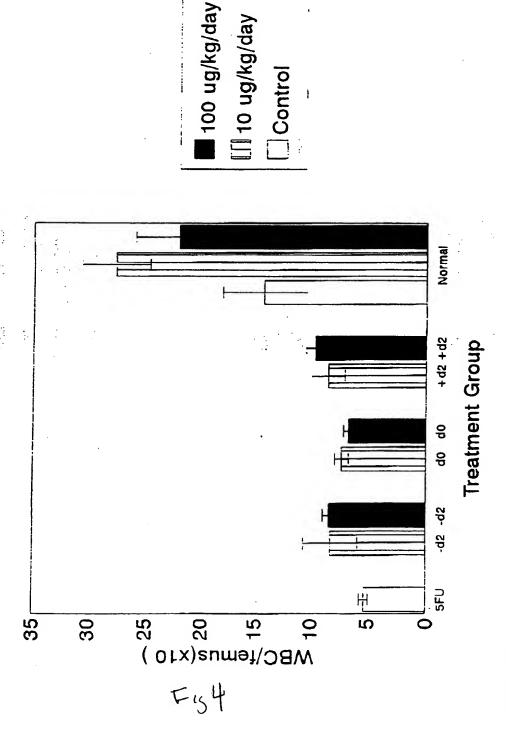
Snleen day 7

Effect of Angiotensin II on White Blood Cell Number



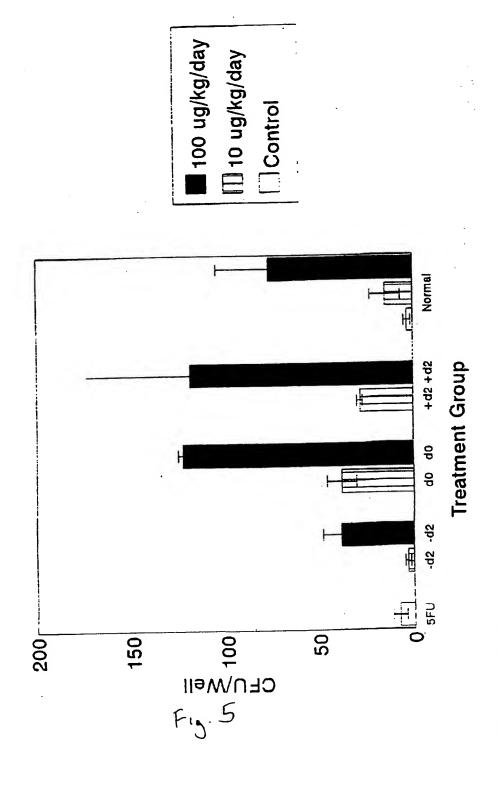
Thymus, day 7

Effect of Angiotensin II on White Blood Cell Number



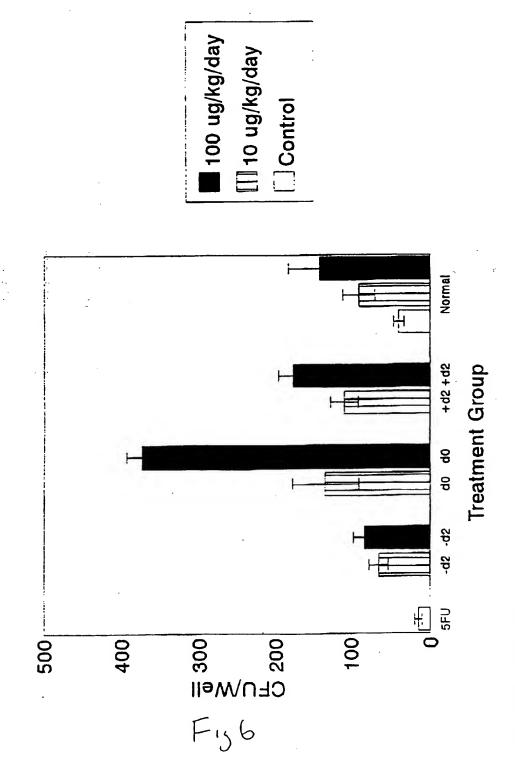
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Effect of Angiotensin II on CFU-GM (Day 7)



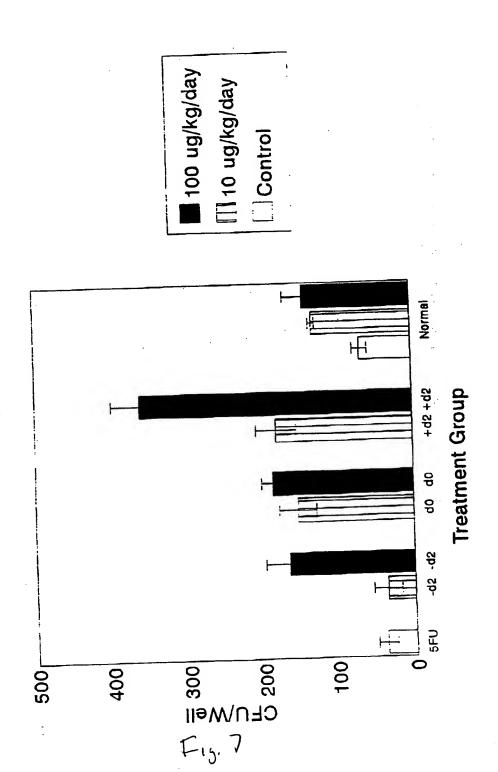
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Effect of Angiotensin II on CFU-GM (Day 7)



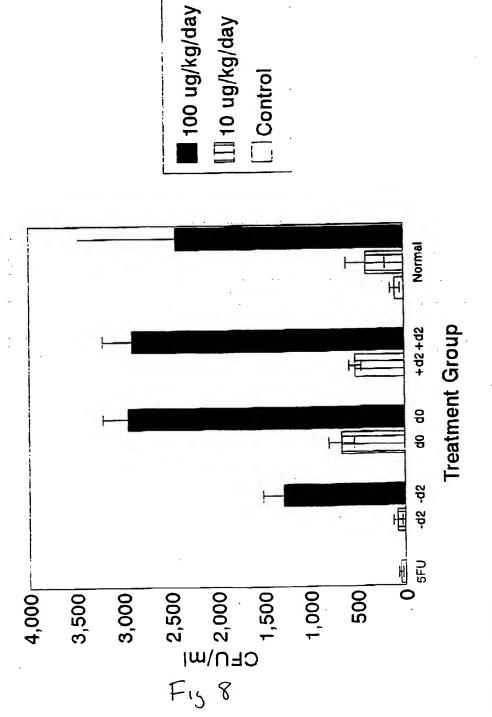
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Effect of Angiotensin II on CFU-GM (Day 7)



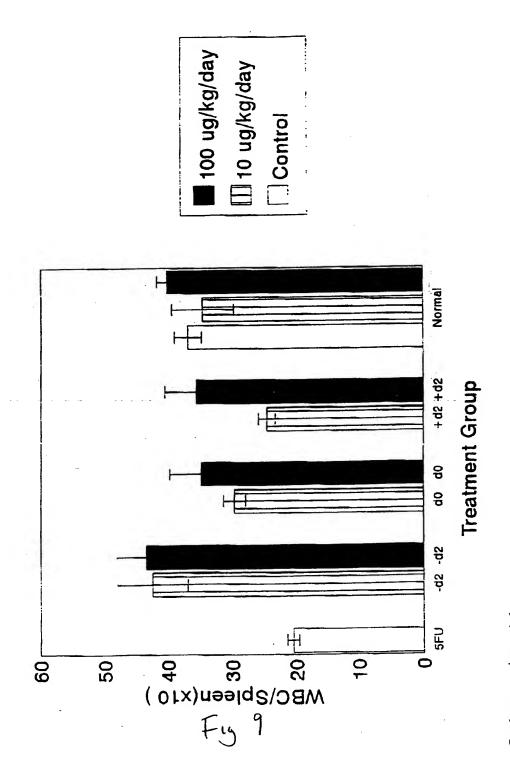
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Effect of Angiotensin II on CFU-GM



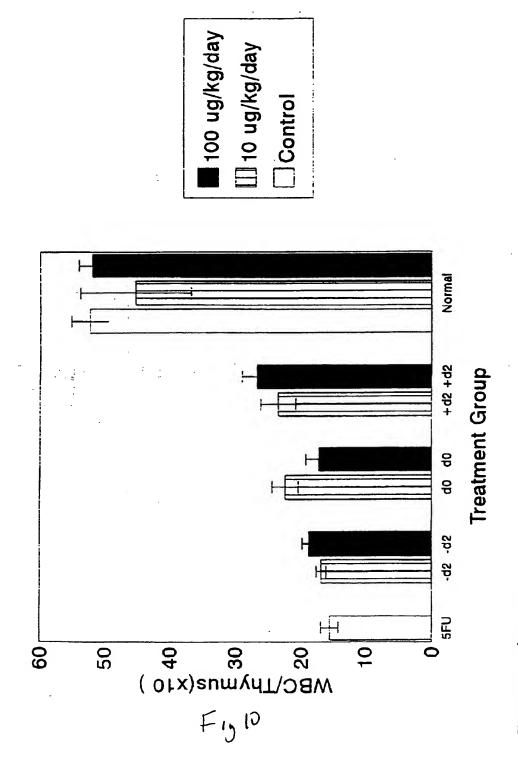
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Effect of Angiotensin II on White Blood Cell Number



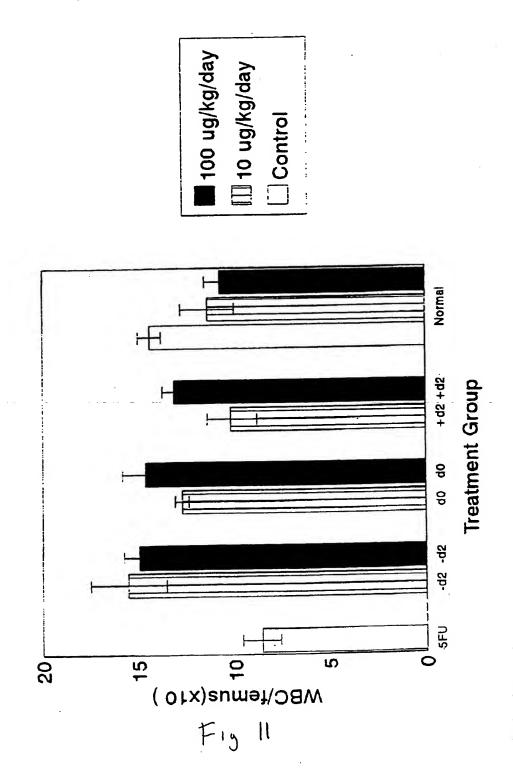
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Effect of Angiotensin II on White Blood Cell Number



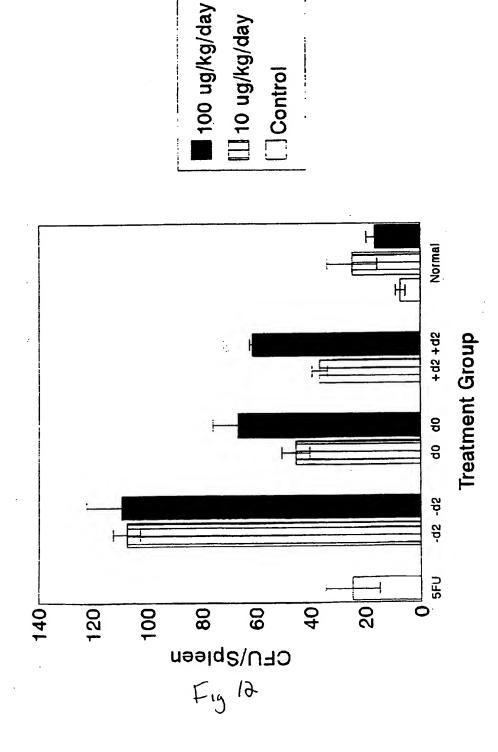
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Effect of Angiotensin II on White Blood Cell Number



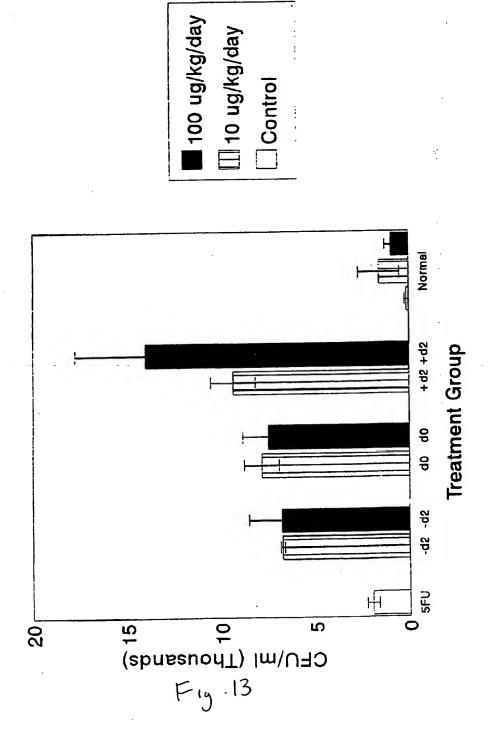
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Effect of Angiotensin II on CFU-GM (Day 7)



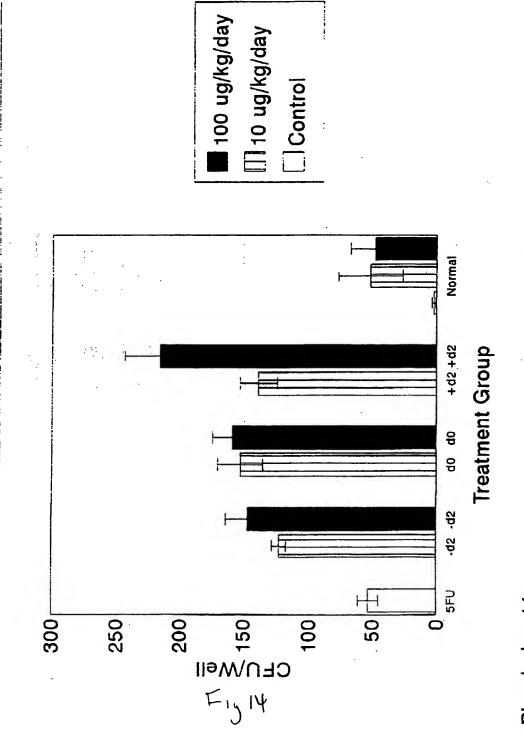
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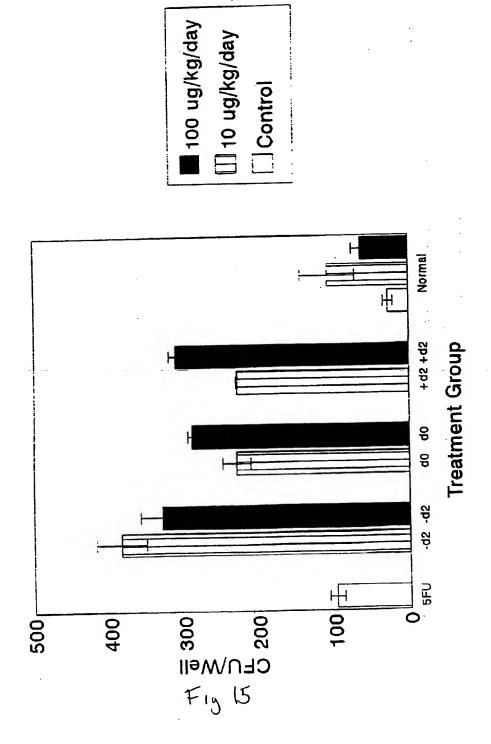
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Effect of Angiotensin II on CFU-GM (Day 7)



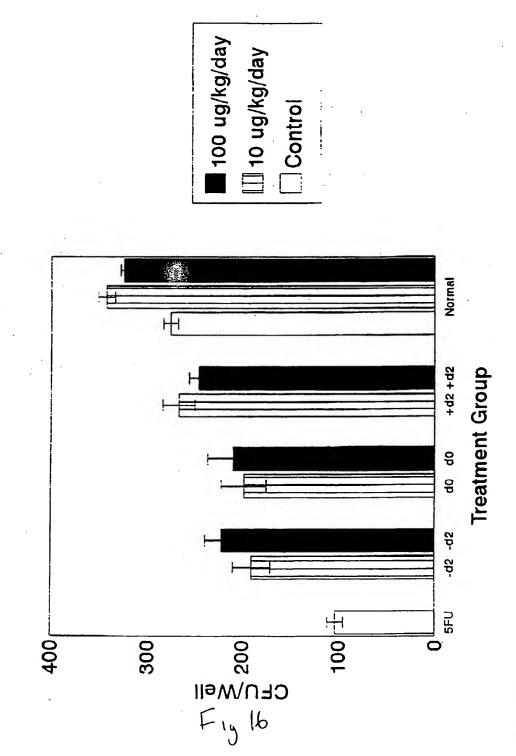
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Effect of Angiotensin II on CFU-GM (Day 7)



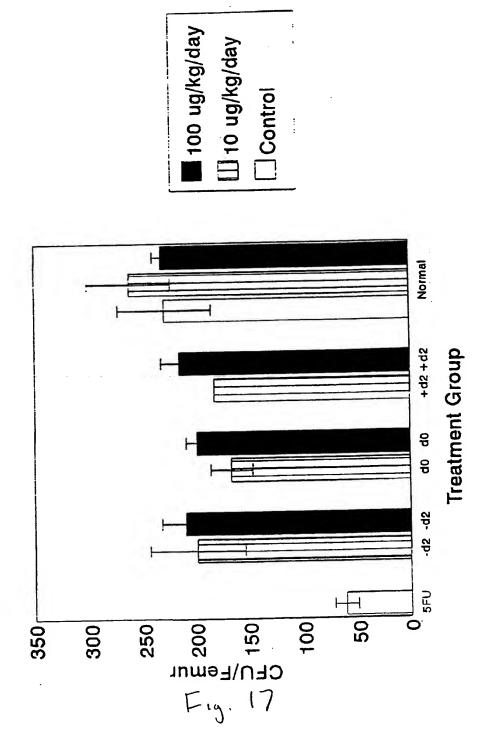
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Effect of Angiotensin II on CFU-GM (Day 7)



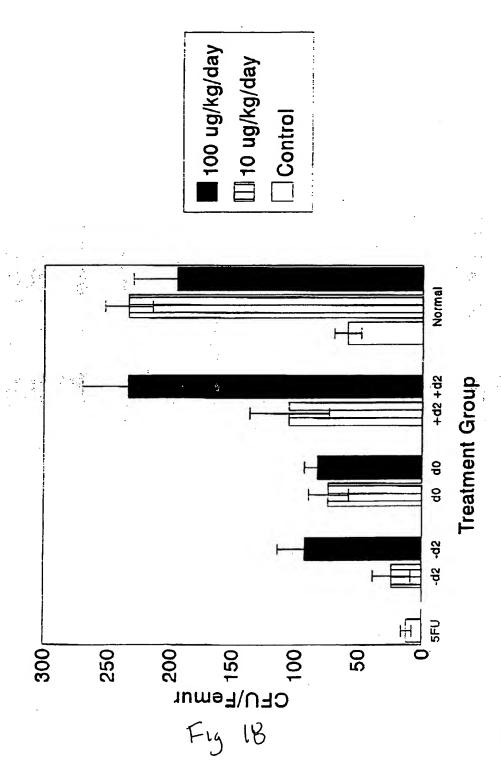
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Effect of Angiotensin II on CFU-GM (Day 7)



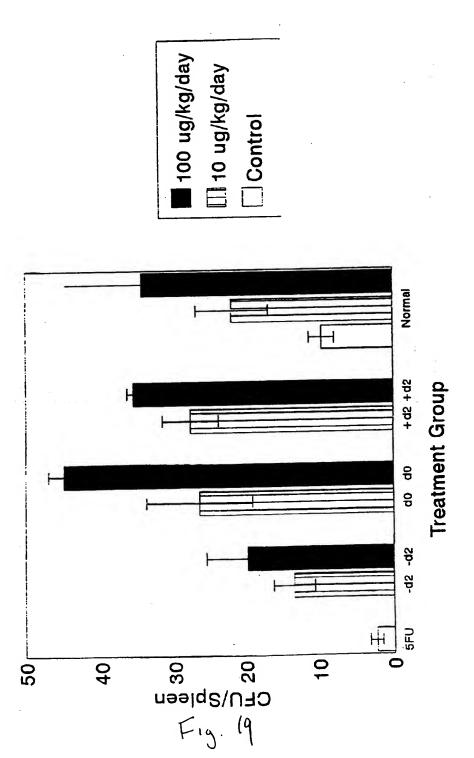
Femur, day 14

on CFU-GM Effect of Angiotensin



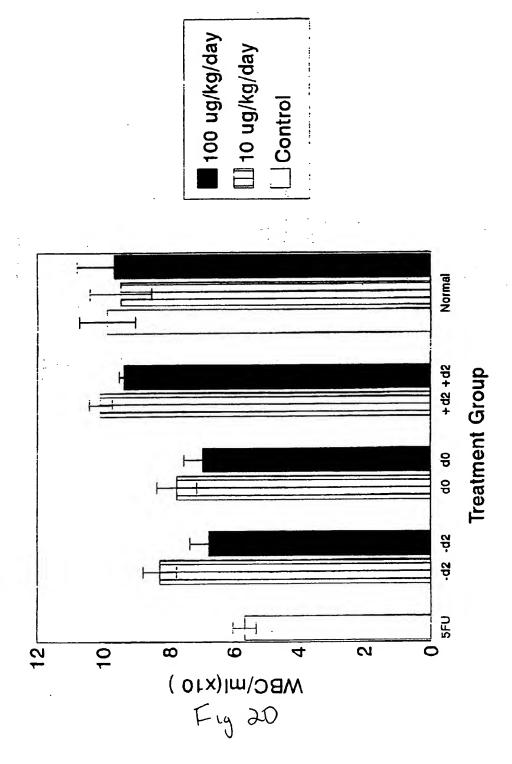
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Effect of Angiotensin II on CFU-GM

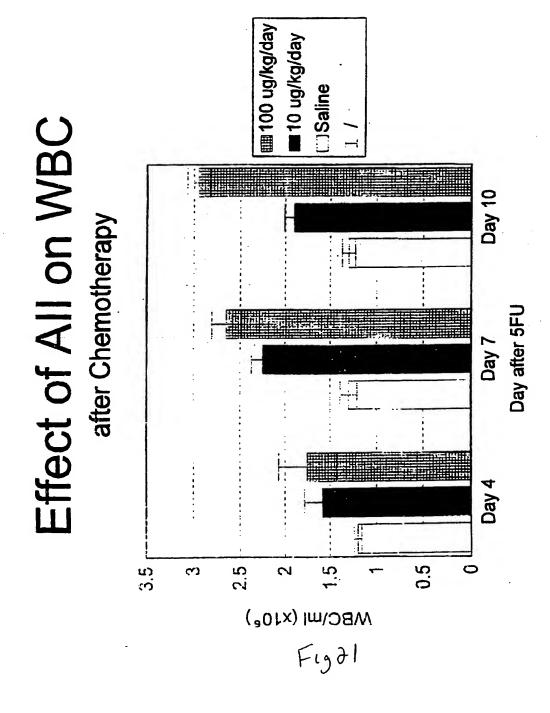


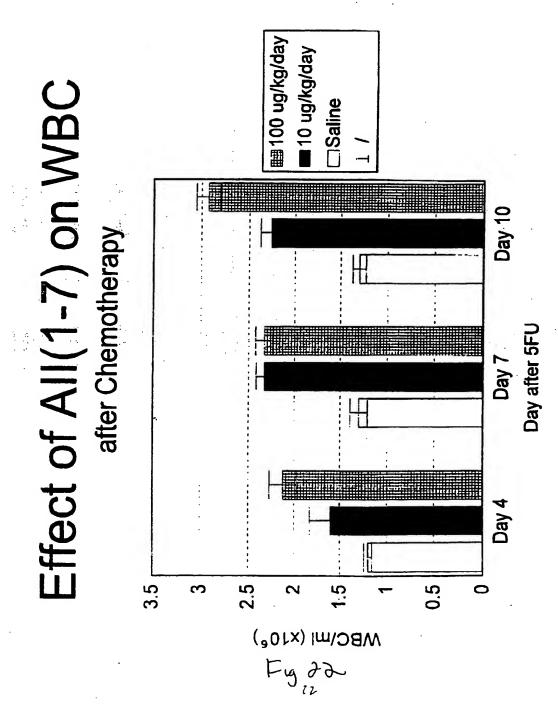
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Effect of Angiotensin II on White Blood Cell Number

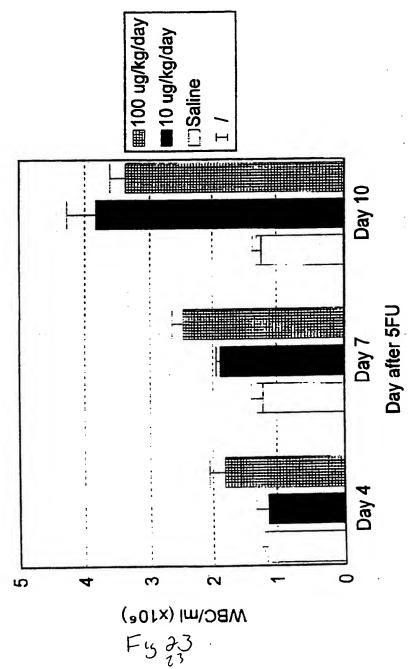


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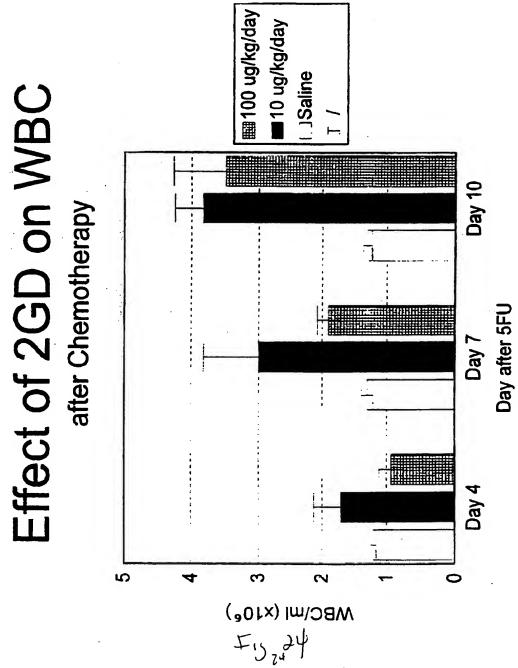




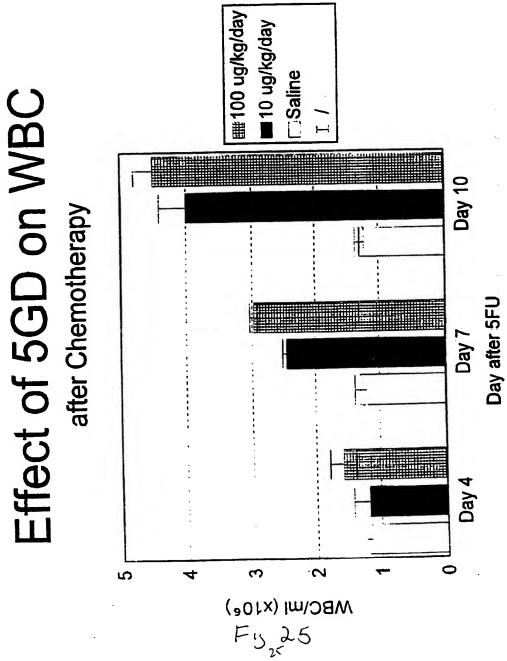




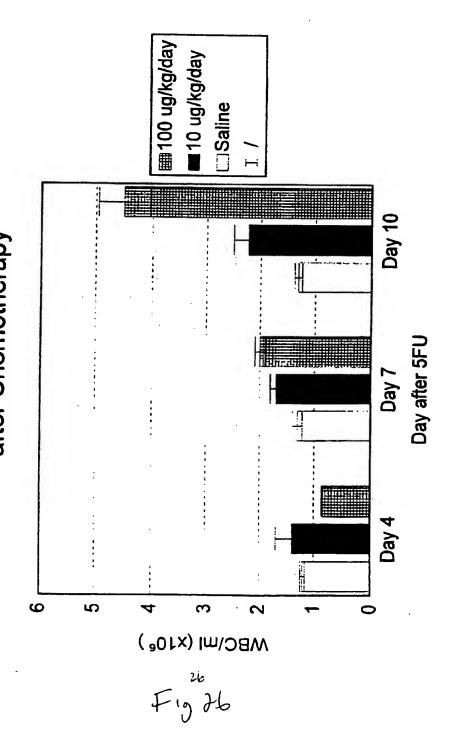




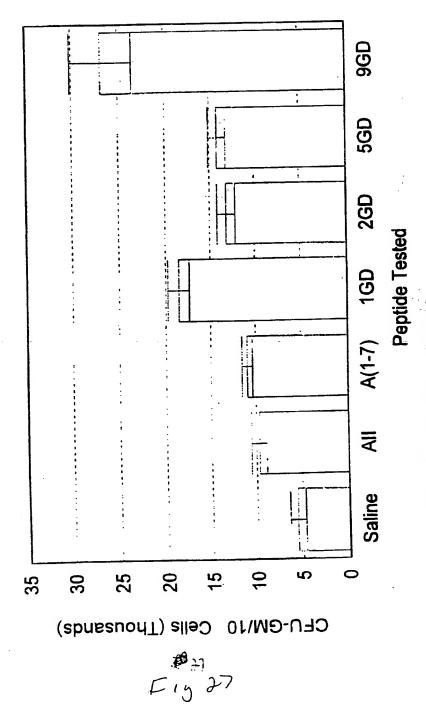






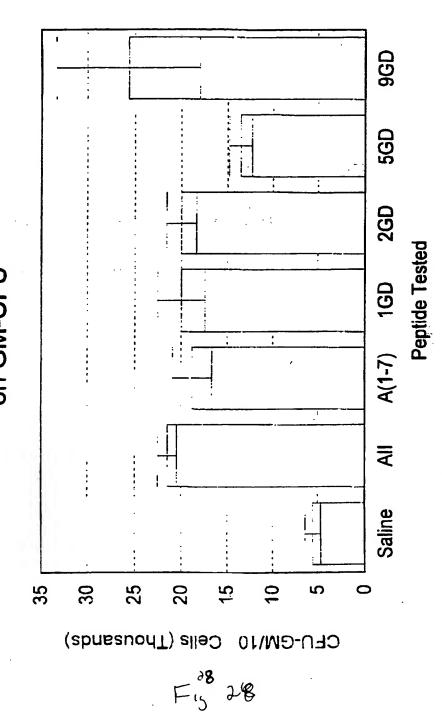






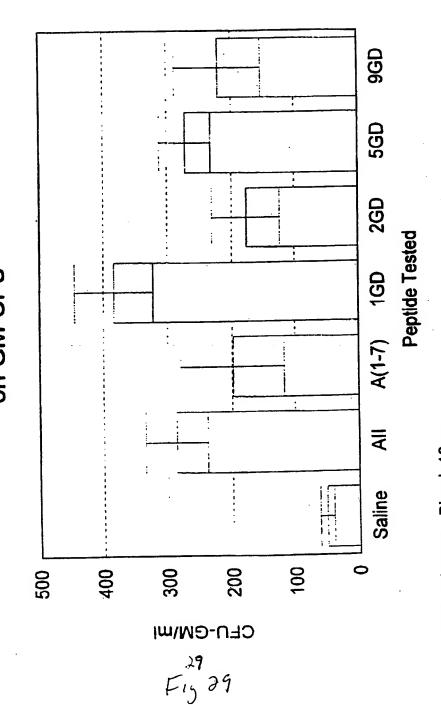
Chemotherapy, Bone Marrow, 10 ug, Day 10





Chemotherapy, Bone Marrow, 100 ug, Day 10

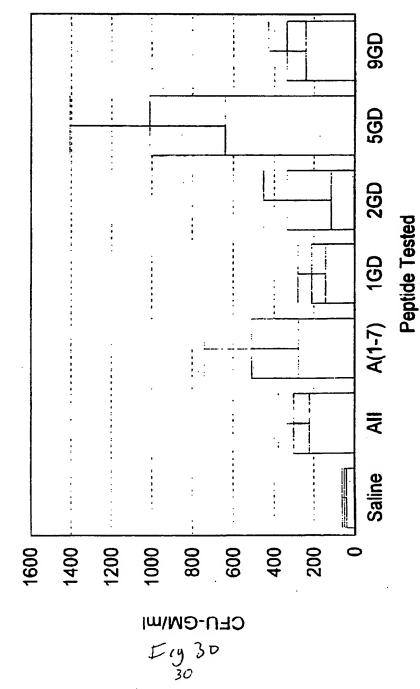




Chemotherapy, Blood, 10 ug

Effect of Angiotensin Peptides





Chemotherapy, Blood, 100 ug

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Interr "onal Application No PC1/US 99/10205

. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER PC 6 A61K38/08 C07K7/14 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) A61K C07K IPC 6 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category ' WO 95 08565 A (UNIV SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA) 3-5,8,9, X 14-16, 30 March 1995 (1995-03-30) 20-26 the whole document MRUG M ET AL: "Angiotensin II stimulates 3-5,8,9, X 14-16, proliferation of normal early erythroid progenitors" 20-26 JOURNAL OF CLINICAL INVESTIGATION, 1900, XP002077069 ISSN: 0021-9738 the whole document WO 97 27867 A (SOD CONSEILS RECH APPLIC 1-26 Α ; INST NAT SANTE RECH MED (FR); BOGDEN ART) 7 August 1997 (1997-08-07) the whole document -/--Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. X Patent family members are listed in annex. X Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 27/09/1999 21 September 1999 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tal. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016 Groenendijk, M

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	tion) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	PC1/03 99/10203		
.(Continue ategory °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.		
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	WO 99 31125 A (UNIV SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA) 24 June 1999 (1999-06-24)	3-5,8,9, 14-16, 20-26		
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	The whole document; see especially SEQ ID 38,39			

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ernational application No.

PCT/US 99/10205

Box I	Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 1 of first sheet)					
This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:						
1. X	Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:  Remark: Although claims 1,2,6,7,11-13,17-19 are directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.					
2	Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:					
3.	Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).					
Box II	Observations where unity of Invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)					
This Int	ernational Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:					
1.	As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.					
2.	As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justitying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.					
3.	As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:					
4.	No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:					
Rema	The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.  No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.					

Information on patent family members

Ir renational Application No FUT/US 99/10205

9				1 , 0 , , = =			
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